



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

15 miles east of Damascus, to make a journey, in company with his wife, in order to visit it, and to track the route of the patriarch Jacob on his "seven days' journey" to Mount Gilead. Harrān is a thriving village of 150 to 200 stone houses, plastered with mud, and contains numerous architectural fragments, especially three Ionic columns, from which it derives its local name of *Harrān-el-Awamid*. A fragment of an inscription was found, but it was too defaced to be deciphered. There exists no local tradition bearing on the ancient history of the village. Dr. Beke discovered a well on the western side of the town, which he conjectures to be the well "without the city" where Abraham's servant met Rebekah.

Leaving Harran on January 1st, the travellers first passed over "the river" Awaj, the Pharphar of Scripture, and then followed the great Haj road across the plains of Hauran till they came to Jebel Ajtun, or Mount Gilead, which they ascended. On reaching the summit, near Mahnah,—the Mahanaim of Genesis,—they obtained an extensive view, embracing most of the remarkable places in Galilee. Then descending Wady Ajlun by Kellat-er-Rubbud, crossing Wady Rajib, and passing by the tomb of Abu Obeida, they reached the Jordan, a little way to the north of Wady Zerka, the Jabbok of Scripture, near where Lieut. Molyneux's party were plundered by the Mashalka ("Messalliek") Arabs, who, on the present occasion, escorted Dr. and Mrs. Beke across the river. After passing the Jordan, however, they had a skirmish with some Beduins; getting free from whom, they crossed the Makhrūd, and ascended Wady Fār'a to Nablūs, the ancient Shechem.

In Dr. Beke's elaborate paper the geographical correspondence of the chief places through which he travelled, with the events of the Bible narrative, are discussed with minuteness. As regards the latter part of the journey, he considers that after the patriarch Jacob had left Succoth (which he places to the south of the Jabbok) and crossed the Jordan, he entered Wady Fār'a at its junction with the former river, passing between the Makhrud and Karn Sartebeh.

THE PRESIDENT begged the Society specially to return their thanks to Mrs. Beke, as well as to her husband, as that lady had shared in all the incidents of the journey which had been described.

---

3.—*Narrative of a Journey through the Interior of Japan from Nagasaki to Yeddo.* By Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, K.C.B., F.R.G.S., Ext. Min. Plen. and Consul-Gen. in Japan.

This journey, of which copious details are given in Additional Notices, p. 200, led through the inland sea of Japan to Hiogo and

Osaca, the great commercial emporium of the Empire, and thence overland to Yeddo. The usual obstructiveness on the part of Japanese officials and the feudal lords or Damios was displayed on this occasion, and overcome, not without danger of a collision, by the firmness of Mr. Alcock. It was essential that his journey should be made, for the time was fast approaching when these ports were to be opened to foreigners, and information on their capabilities had to be obtained. The result was that Osaca appeared beyond a doubt to be the most promising site in Japan for the principal seat of foreign commerce.

THE PRESIDENT commended the author in an earnest manner for his highly-interesting sketch of the social condition of Japan.

THE PRESIDENT then called the attention of the Fellows to the proposal of M. Jules Gérard to establish an African Society for explorations south-west from Algeria; and, having complimented his associates on the increasing prosperity of the Royal Geographical Society, he adjourned the meetings till November next.

---

## ADDITIONAL NOTICES.

(Printed by order of Council.)

---

1.—*The “Herald’s” Voyage, 1852-61.* By CAPTAIN DENHAM, R.N., F.R.S.  
(See p. 195.)

IN 1851 strong representations were made to Her Majesty’s Government respecting both the rapidly-increasing traffic between our Australian colonies and the western coast of America, and our inadequate knowledge of the intervening navigation among the insulated rocks and intricate clusters of islands which extend to the eastward of New Caledonia. It was urged also that distant commerce and maritime enterprise would derive great benefit from a thorough examination of that region, from having its dangers fully explored, and from having its harbours so charted and described that the seaman would know where he could either obtain supplies or repair for refit or refuge, or endeavour to fix his whaling or his coaling stations. An exploring and surveying voyage was accordingly undertaken in 1852, which, under Admiralty instructions, from time to time was conducted by Captain Henry Mangles Denham, of the Royal Navy, in Her Majesty’s ship *Herald*, until 1861, when she was recalled in consideration of so long an absence from England.

The hydrographic results of this voyage being *transmitted annually*, the existing charts were forthwith corrected, and several new ones published, together with such hydrographic papers as would *at once* give the maritime world the benefit of those results; and, in due course, the original matter, franked by the Duke of Somerset as First Lord of the Admiralty, and by Admiral Washington as the Admiralty Hydrographer, is now laid before this